

REMARKS

Claims 21, 23-25, and 28-38 are pending. Claims 1-20, 22, 26, and 27 are canceled, and claims 30-38 are added herewith. Claims 21, 30, and 35 are the independent claims.

In an Official Action dated Feb. 26, 2007, pending claims 21, 23-25, and 28 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102. Claim 29 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103. Additional objections and rejections were also made that are moot in view of cancellation of the underlying claims.

Interview Summary

Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for the courtesy of a telephonic interview to discuss the outstanding rejections on April 19, 2007. At the interview, Applicants agreed to cancel at least claims 1-12 and pursue various amendments to the remaining claims to overcome the outstanding rejections. No specific amendments were agreed upon, such amendments being deferred to this written response.

Rejection of Claims 21, 23-25, 28, and 29 Under 35 U.S.C. § 102 and 103

Claims 21, 23-25, and 28 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as allegedly anticipated by U.S. Pat. 5,822,585 (Noble). Claim 29 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as allegedly obvious over Noble in view of U.S. Pat. 5,689,697 (Edwards). Independent claim 21 is amended to overcome the various references of record.

In particular, Applicants would like to point out that as amended, claim 21 requires: *instructions for an initialization method..., instructions for signaling an application..., and instructions for a finalization method that can be invoked by said application, in response to said signaling...*

Noble does not teach or suggest a finalization method that can be invoked by said application, in response to said signaling. The various other references are similarly deficient in this regard.

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections.

DOCKET NO.: MSFT-3018/307735.01
Application No.: 10/824,177
Office Action Dated: February 26, 2007

PATENT

Respectfully submitted,

Date: May 25, 2007

/Nathaniel Gilder/
Nathaniel Gilder
Registration No. 53,233

Woodcock Washburn LLP
Cira Centre
2929 Arch Street, 12th Floor
Philadelphia, PA 19104-2891
Telephone: (215) 568-3100
Facsimile: (215) 568-3439